

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 153087
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:RGRAHAM
APPROVED BY ARA/ECA:FDEVINE
ARA/ECA:RWZIMMERMANN
S/S-O:AWOTTO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 153087

EXDIS: FOR AMBASSADOR LANDAU

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, OAS, PA

SUBJECT: AIDE-MEMOIRE TO PARAGUAYAN AMBASSADOR ON IAHR
C VISIT AND IDB LOANS.

REF: ASUNCION 2650

1. AMBASSADOR LOPEZ ESCOBAR WAS CALLED IN BY ARA/ECA
DIRECTOR ZIMMERMANN, JUNE 28, TO REINFORCE THE DEMARCHE YOU
WERE MAKING TO PRESIDENT STROESSNER THE SAME DAY. IN BRIEF,
IT WAS SUGGESTED TO HIM THAT PARAGUAY CONSIDER WITHDRAWING
TWO LOAN APPLICATIONS NOW PENDING IN THE IDB AND TENTATIVELY
SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE TIME FRAME JULY 6 - 13,
UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A FAVORABLE DECISION IS REACHED ON THE
VISIT BY THE IAHR. IF THE LOANS ARE NOT WITHDRAWN PENDING
RESOLUTION OF THE IAHR VISIT, THE U.S. WOULD BE OBLIGED TO
OPPOSE THE LOANS. HE WAS FURTHER INFORMED THAT THE U.S.
HAD A VETO POWER OVER LOANS FUNDED WITH FSO MONEY, CONTRARY
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TO IMPRESSION CARRIED AWAY BY ROMERO ACOSTA FROM GUATEMALA.

2. LOPEZ ESCOBAR THEN RELATED HIS INTERPRETATION OF THE
BILATERAL BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND FOREIGN MINISTER NOGUES
IN GRENADA ON JUNE 16. HE SAID HE FOUND THE PRESENT
DEMARCHE AT VARIANCE WITH WHAT WAS SAID ON THAT OCCASION.
SPECIFICALLY HE CLAIMED THE SECRETARY PROMISED TO SUPPORT

PARAGUAYAN LOANS IN VIEW OF THE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. INTER ALIA HE CHOSE TO IGNORE THE GOP COMMITMENT TO PERMIT AN IAHCRC INSPECTION VISIT AND CLAIMED OUR DEMARCHE WAS CONTRARY TO THE POSITIVE ATTITUDE OF THE SECRETARY.

3. LOPEZ ESCOBAR THEREUPON INSISTED ON WRITTEN NOTIFICATION OF OUR POSITION WITH RESPECT TO THE IDB LOAN APPLICATIONS AND THE IAHCRC VISIT. (HE HAD BEEN TOLD, INCIDENTALLY, THAT YOU WERE MAKING A SIMILAR DEMARCHE TO PRESIDENT STROESSNER THE SAME DAY.) HE CLAIMED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER NOGUES MIGHT THINK HE WAS DISTORTING A VERBAL DEMARCHE, BUT HE WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO TRANSMITTING A WRITTEN COMMUNICATION.

4. FOR THE RECORD, ARA/ECA RECHECKED THE TEXT OF THE MEMCON OF THE SECRETARY'S BILATERAL WITH NOGUES WITH USOAS AND CONFIRMED THAT NO COMMITMENT ON IDB SUPPORT WAS GIVEN TO NOGUES, OTHER THAN A REFERENCE TO THE SUPPORT WE HAD ALREADY GIVEN IN THE IFIS. ZIMMERMANN THEN CALLED AMBASSADOR LOPEZ ESCOBAR TO RE-EMPHASIZE WHAT HAD BEEN SAID IN THE BILATERAL, AT WHICH POINT THE AMBASSADOR ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE MIGHT NOT HAVE PRECISELY REFLECTED THE GRENADA CONVERSATION.

5. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT LOPEZ ESCOBAR IS PROVING TO
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BE AN UNRELIABLE CHANNEL OF ORAL COMMUNICATION, THE DEPARTMENT WILL ACCEDE TO HIS REQUEST FOR A WRITTEN STATEMENT OF OUR POSITION. TEXT OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE DELIVERED TO THE AMBASSADOR WILL BE SENT SEPTTEL. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, VOTING, AIDE MEMOIRE, AMBASSADORS, VISITS, LOANS, DEVELOPMENT BANKS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE153087
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RGRAHAM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770234-0654
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977061/aaaaaavc.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d8f97f72-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 ASUNCION 2650
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1990909
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AIDE-MEMOIRE TO PARAGUAYAN AMBASSADOR ON IAHRV VISIT AND IDB LOANS.
TAGS: SHUM, PORC, PA, US, OAS, IAHRV, IDB, (ESCOBAR, LOPEZ)
To: ASUNCION
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d8f97f72-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009